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## SENATE DENOUNCES HOUSE PRINTING STEAL

Nevertheless It Allows the Representatives  
Enough Money to Meet the  
Shady Contract.

The Senate yesterday passed the House expense bill at \$18,000 after first putting itself on record as opposed to the extravagances of that body. The report of the committee was an exceedingly mild one, but even that was sufficient to show up the abuses indulged in by the House, and the discussion that followed was particularly severe upon the House method of awarding a contract for \$7500 which the records of the Senate showed could have been obtained at less than half that amount.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.  
The following is the report submitted by Senator Baldwin for the committee:

Honolulu, T. H., May 19, 1903.  
Honorable C. L. Crabbe, President of the Senate.  
Sir: Your Committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred House Bill No. 1, appropriating \$20,000 for the expenses of the House for this special session, beg leave to report that we have had the same under careful consideration.  
We find on investigation, that the probable expenses of the House for a fifty-six day session, will be as follows:  
Salaries of the Representatives. \$ 6,000  
Expenses of the House at \$54 per day. 3,024  
Printing the Journal of the regular and special sessions in book form, 200 copies in English and 300 in Hawaiian, including translation. 7,500  
Incidentals. 1,500  
Total. \$18,024

The secretary of the House states that he asked for bids for publishing the Journal. For some reason unknown to your committee, the Bulletin Publishing Co. was the only publishing house that put in a bid, which was at \$2.10 a page. The Senate has received several bids for publishing their Journal in book form, one of which from Robert Grieve is \$1.38 a page, with an agreement to give bonds that the work will be done according to specifications. In regard to placing the length of the session at fifty-six days, we would say that the last special session for passing appropriation bills was fifty-six days. This gives, in our opinion, ample time for the work of this session.

The expenses of the regular and special sessions of the Legislature last period amounted to \$94,654.94. Previous to that date the most expensive Legislature on record was about \$45,000.

The expenses of this Legislature will probably be as follows:

Senate Expenses—Expenses of the regular session and two special sessions, one of which was held last November to consider the Governor's appointments, total \$20,000.

House Expenses—The expenses of the House according to the present outlook, will undoubtedly be, for the regular and this special session, about \$37,000.

Your Committee recommends that the appropriation in this bill be amended to read \$18,000. This is in our opinion, much too large an appropriation for the expenses of the House, and it is with reluctance that we recommend this amount.

Respectfully submitted,  
(Signed) H. P. BALDWIN,  
J. D. PARIS,  
S. E. KAUUE.

President Crabbe called attention to the fact that if the Legislature was to be in session fifty-six days as reported by the committee the Senate would have but ninety-six dollars for expenses after paying salaries.

NO SHOW FOR SENATE.

Senator Baldwin replied that he didn't see any need himself of sitting for fifty-six days but that how long it took the last legislature to act, and he was making an outside allowance. "If you allow the House that much," remarked Achi, "I think the Senate will need some more."

"We can put in another bill," suggested Senator Cecil Brown.

"Yes but they won't pass it," said McCandless.

Senator Dickey moved to lay the report on the table to be considered with the bill. "I don't agree with the committee entirely," he said, "one item of \$7500 for printing the Journal of the House is too much. When we get bids at \$1.38 per page, why should the House give \$2.10 a page? I don't believe in giving hush money that way. If the House can't keep its contract, it can't do it, that is all."

TOO MUCH FOR PRINTING.  
"I regret very much that amount for printing," said Baldwin, "but we can't do anything with the House contracts. I will say that I had the report written some time back, shortly after the bill was referred to this committee, but I have been holding it to find out more definitely what the House wanted. I don't believe the Senate was as liberal as disposed at that time. I hardly think it right for the House to ask for more than double what the Senate wants. I expected that their expenses would be double ours and when in the regular session we asked \$20,000 and they asked \$40,000 I had no objection. But here we ask \$5,000 and they want four times that amount. The Republican party in the Senate doesn't think they should be asking more than double what is spent here."

Senator McCandless said he was surprised at the statement that the Senate had nothing to do with the expenses of the House. He said it was for the Senate to say what any money should be spent for, and if the Senate asked \$40,000 for its expenses, he would think the House did wrong to permit the bill to go through.  
"ABSOLUTELY WRONG."  
"If we allow the House to let a contract for printing at \$2.10 when it can be done for \$1.38 which is absolutely wrong," said McCandless, "which we do by adopting this report, we are as much to blame as the House. I don't see how we can approve of a contract for \$2.10 when we can get the work done at \$1.38 a page. I understand that the Advertiser was to get the contract for the Senate Journal at \$1.62 but the Senate wouldn't approve of it, and it did right by letting it to the lowest bidder at \$1.38. And now we want to approve of the House paying \$2.10 for the same work that can be got for \$1.38. It will be upon our shoulders if the report is adopted and I move that it be laid on the table to be considered with the bill."  
Senator Baldwin said there had already been a long delay and that immediate action could be taken as well as not, as every member knew all about it.  
NOT THIEVES OR SCOUNDRELS.  
Senator C. Brown said that the Senate had nothing to do with the matter at all, and could not sit in judgment upon the House of Representatives. He said if the House wished to appropriate money and enter into a contract which the Senate didn't approve of it was beyond the prerogatives and duty of the Senate to dictate what contracts the House should make. "We are to presume that they are gentlemen and honorable," he said, "and that they are doing the best they know how, and not that they are a set of thieves and scoundrels. It is true they can't get the money unless the Senate votes for it, but it is not for the Senate to say how they shall spend it. We ought to vote \$18,000 which I think is too much, but as Senators we have no right to ascribe motives to the House of Representatives which we would not ascribe to ourselves as Senators."

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CAN INVESTIGATE HOUSE.  
Senator Achi seconded the motion to table the report and said that if the statement was true, that the Senate had no right to look into the affairs of the House, then they had no right to reduce the amount. He contended, however, that the Senate could investigate the expenditures of the House as well as of any public official and if the theory of Senator Brown was true the House could ask \$50,000 and the Senate could not say whether it should be given or not.  
Senator Brown interrupted and asked what would have been done if the old custom had been followed and a lump sum appropriated for both houses. The bill for the Senate had been introduced by him and he didn't believe the Senate could examine into the affairs of the House any more than if a lump sum had been appropriated for the use of both houses.  
Senator Achi said he knew the amount appropriated was more than should be given, though the clerk of the House informed him that \$20,000 would be needed and there was still outstanding bills from the regular session.  
Achi moved to amend the report to give \$20,000 which Kalauokalani seconded.  
Achi said he wanted the Senate to force action on the unpaid bills measures, and added that it didn't look well when the Legislature first passed appropriations for its own use, and left jurors waiting over the entire regular session. He suggested that the bill be held up until the emergency and unpaid bills were passed.  
Achi again moved to fix the amount at \$20,000 and McCandless amended at \$10,000.  
"I think we had better adjourn," suggested Baldwin.  
"I second that motion," said McCandless.  
"I didn't make a motion," replied Baldwin, "I simply thought we had better adjourn."  
"I move we adjourn then," said McCandless.  
The motion to adjourn was lost only McCandless and Achi voting for it.  
The motion to consider the report with the bill was lost, three to five.  
The motion to pass the report at \$20,000 was lost.  
Senator Dickey then moved that the amount be fixed at \$15,000 which he said was plenty of money to print the Journal at regular rates.  
McCandless amended to make it \$12,000.  
President Crabbe then put the motion to adopt the report and at the request of McCandless ayes and noes were called. The report was adopted and the bill passed second reading, nine to three, on the following vote: Ayes—Baldwin, Brown, J. T. Brown, Isenberg, Kalauokalani, Kauue, Kaohi, Paris, Crabbe, 9. Noes—Achi, Dickey, McCandless, 3.

Senator Isenberg moved to adjourn until Thursday. Achi to Friday, Baldwin to Wednesday. The motion to adjourn until Thursday carried.

Milton M. Fisher, whose death in the town of Medway, Mass., at the great age of 92 is chronicled, claimed, and probably with truth, to be the oldest living man who had identified himself with the Garrison movement for the abolition of slavery. He welcomed it in its early meetings and always shared in its abhorrence of the "peculiar institution," but he differed from its general policy as regards political action, being an earnest member of the Free Soil and Republican parties successively.

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## HOW THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA IS PROGRESSING

(Continued from yesterday.)

The unexpected continuance of the Insular revenues at their former point has enabled the Government to increase the number of the Rural Guard, to continue the force employed in sanitary processes, to maintain the former number of teachers in public schools, and to expend various sums in labor-employing public improvements, such as the improvement of public parks and the westward extension of the Malecon in Havana. All these enterprises, public and private, have played their part in averting a general disaster.

The weak point in the last four years of Cuban experience has been the failure of the American authorities to foster and to further the industries of the island, to establish the Cuban people in that economic prosperity which is the basis of all successful government. The strong point of that experience has been the commendable efforts of a poverty-stricken people, inhabiting a land devastated by the three years of war, to reestablish their destroyed industries, and, as well, their patience under adversity, their pluck, their industry, their charity toward each other and their mutual helpfulness. To them and not to the United States there belongs the credit for the averting of the predicted disaster. The special pity of it all is that the past year has cost the United States a distinct loss to Cuban confidence and respect. They turned to their supposed friends and guardians in their hours of trouble and encountered a closed door, from behind which there came declarations of friendly concern, but no dollars and no helping hand.

Cuban administration has been, thus far, chiefly notable for its masterly inactivity. In that which some are disposed to condemn, lies, properly, the key to their success. There has been no plunging. In a most commendable fashion, the Cubans have cut their garments according to their cloth. Financially, their handling of their affairs has been vastly better and wiser than was that of Gen. Wood. Their revenues have not varied widely from those of the American official. Their necessary expenses have been greater than his. They have been obliged to maintain their executive and legislative departments, President, Cabinet and Congress. Diplomatic and consular services have been maintained. These did not exist under the Government of intervention. Notwithstanding all this, a comparative statement shows strongly in favor of the Cuban Administration. During his control of Cuban affairs, Gen. Wood overspent his revenues by some \$1,400,000. This he drew from a balance of some \$1,900,000 left in the treasury by his predecessor, Gen. John R. Brooke. The sum which Gen. Wood turned over to the new Government (about \$540,000) was what remained of the Brooke surplus after Gen. Wood had drawn upon it to the extent above stated. On April 1, 1903, after the payment of all current expenses, the Cuban treasury showed a surplus of \$2,638,000.

Politically, the Cuban situation is somewhat confused, though not injuriously so. Political parties exist and their names appear in political activities. But there is little or nothing which constitutes a well-defined issue. To some extent, the Platt Amendment has figured as an issue, a radical element opposing its ratification and a conservative element advising or urging its confirmation, though the division is not made strictly along party lines. Other questions, such as the national loan and the payment of the army, and the approval or disapproval of a reciprocity treaty with the United States, stand in

a similarly vague political position. President Estrada Palma has amply justified his election to the leadership of his people. Some friction has been inevitable between the two houses of legislation, and between the legislature and the executive. But it is not for the American people to criticize the Cubans for that.

Industrially, the island is showing a slow but steady improvement so far as the great mass of the people are concerned. Their patient industry is bearing fruit in increased domestic comforts, although the life of the majority of Cuba's peasantry, even as it is today, would be regarded by Americans as barely removed from a pitiable and abject poverty. Small farmers compose a notable percentage of the population of the island. The census of 1898 shows upward of 50,000 of these farmers whose holdings, either owned or rented, are under fifteen acres in extent. It is the large planters who have been and who are now most heavily hit by the industrial conditions. These are comparatively few in number, but the fact that each of them is a possible employer of anywhere from 500 to 2,500 hands, for their field operations, makes their reasonable prosperity a matter of incalculable importance to the welfare of the island, and makes their misfortune a danger to all. Many, probably most of these, at the time of the American occupation, were little better than bankrupt. They have borrowed money upon such terms as they could for a reestablishment of their devastated fields and their damaged or destroyed machinery, and have held on in the hope of conditions which would operate for their salvation. The hoped for relief has not yet come, and the outlook for these planters and their many thousands of dependants is not notably encouraging. The future of the island and its Government may not be predicted with safety beyond the fact that any armed revolution, any warlike insurrection, is quite as improbable in Cuba as it is in any State in the American Union. Political peace and governmental stability depend there, as they do in all countries, primarily upon reasonable industrial prosperity. Poverty means political unrest in Cuba, discontent and political unrest in Cuba, the United States. A hungry people will be dissatisfied with a government which is, as a system of government, ideal. A highly prosperous or a reasonably prosperous people will shout its approval of its existing administration, just as do the people of the United States.

It would be supreme folly for any annexation element in this country to seek to advance its aims by forcing the Cubans into a poverty from which there appeared no relief except through political union with the United States. Cubans may be led but they cannot be driven. A suspicion, which is easily aroused, that an effort was being made to coerce them would call out a persistent stubbornness little short of impossible to overcome. A generous and liberal attitude toward them is the only course of wisdom for this country. "Poor people make poor neighbors." They also make poor customers. Cuba's prosperity depends on the people of the United States. According to the measure of return for benefits conferred upon her.

